

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: FUKUMOTO7

In re Application of:)	Conf. No.: 9731
)	
Toshiro FUKUMOTO et al.)	Art Unit:
)	
IA No: PCT/JP03/16738)	Examiner:
)	
IA Filed: December 25, 2003)	Washington, D.C.
)	
Appln. No.: 10/584,238)	
)	
For: FACILITATED SAFE CAR)	January 17, 2007
STEERING DEVICE)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS]

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building, Mail Stop Amendment
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

[X] 1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97, as it is filed:

[] A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.

[XX] B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits or before the mailing of a first Office

action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR §1.114; or

[] C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicant has made the necessary certification (box "i" below) or paid the necessary fee (box "ii" below):

[] i. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein either was

[] (a) first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

[] (b) not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, not known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

[] ii. Credit Card Payment Form, PTO-2038, is attached authorizing payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p), presently believed to be \$180. If the enclosed payment is incorrect, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4035 of the undersigned.

[] D. after (A), (B) and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee: Applicant states as follows under 37 CFR §1.97(e) for consideration of this IDS, that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein either was

[] (a) first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

[] (b) not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, not known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

Credit Card Payment Form, PTO-2038, is attached authorizing payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p), presently believed to be \$180. If the enclosed payment is incorrect, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-4035 of the undersigned.

[X] 2. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98, this IDS includes a list (e.g., form BN/SB/08A/B) of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. Other than U.S. patent(s) and/or published U.S. application(s), which 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii) does not require to be filed unless specifically required by the Office, a copy of each document listed is attached, except as explained below:

[] A. Document(s) _____ is/are deemed substantially cumulative to document(s) _____, and, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(c), a copy of each of the former document(s) is not enclosed.

[] B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

(insert serial numbers and filing dates of prior applications)

Applicant identifies these documents by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892, PTO-1449, PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b (or their BN form equivalents) from the files of the prior application(s) or a fresh BN/SB/08A and/or BN/SB/08B listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made

of record in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(d). Per 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

[] 3. Document(s) _____ is/are not in the English language. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), Applicant states:

[] An English translation of each document _____ (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of an English-language abstract (or claim) is enclosed.

[] For documents _____, a corresponding English-language patent or published application is included on the accompanying Form BN/SB/08A, with a line drawn in the margin connecting the non-English-language document with its corresponding English-language document.

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is found in the attached _____ search report (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is set forth as follows:

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ can be found on page(s) _____ of the specification.

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ can be found on the attached sheet.

[X] 4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

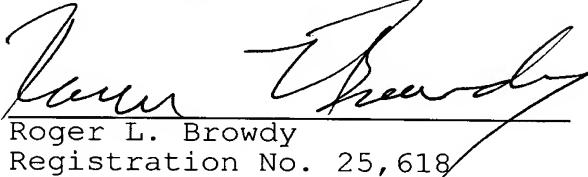
[] 5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:

6. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/584,238
				Filing Date	December 25, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Toshiro FUKUMOTO
				Group Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	FUKUMOTO7

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS / OTHER INFORMATION					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			
	AA	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 2003-279357 Date of Publication of Application: October 2, 2003			
	AB	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 2003-014477 Date of Publication of Application: January 15, 2003			
	AC	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 09-218955 Date of Publication of Application: August 19, 1997			
	AD	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 10-059120 Date of Publication of Application: March 3, 1998			
	AE	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 07-318651 Date of Publication of Application: December 8, 1995			
	AF	Patent Abstracts of Japan Publication Number: 10-283477 Date of Publication of Application: October 23, 1998			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.